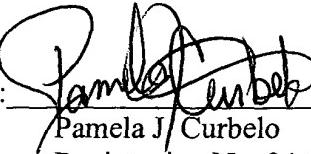


Applicants request entry of the above amendments prior to examination. If there are any charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-0831 maintained by Assignee.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION; "Marked-up Version":

Page 3, lines 13 - 14:

Figure 2 is ~~an isometric perspective~~, cut-out view of the catalytic converter of Figure 1 (without the end cone assemblies);

Pages 13 - 14, lines 19 - 6:

Production of the catalytic converter comprises forming the subassembly as described above and disposing the subassembly in the shell. Typically, the mat support material/catalyst substrate subassembly can be inserted into shell 72 or 78 using a variety of methods. The methods are chosen based upon the type of shell, i.e. clamshell, tubular, spinform, and others, that is being utilized. The subassembly can be placed in a stuffing cone, for example. The stuffing cone is a device that compresses mat support material 70 concentrically about catalyst substrate 10, 30, or 50 using a ramming component. The ram stuffs the compressed subassembly into shell 72 or 78. In the alternative, the subassembly can also be concentrically disposed within shell 72 or 78 by several canning methods, such as, for example, the sized-to-dimension method, stuffed method, tourniquet wrap method, clamshell style method, and the like. Furthermore, each opening of shell 72 in any embodiment, can be fitted with an end cone, end plate, mat protection ring, exhaust manifold, or the like, as well as a combination including at least one of the foregoing, as is appropriate with the design and use.